CLAIMS

1   1.   A method for printing information comprising:

2   receiving information corresponding to a user's intent to print a print task;

3   identifying at least one printing device possessing capabilities corresponding

4   to attributes of the print task such that the at least one the printing device is able to

5   print the print task optimally compared to at least another unidentified printing device,

6   enabling the user to select from among the identified printing devices; and

7   facilitating printing of the print task at the selected printing device to produce

8   a printed document such that the printed document exhibits the attributes of the print

9   task.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the at least one printing device

2   comprises:

3   retrieving information corresponding to the print task; and

4   analyzing the information corresponding to the print task to identify at least

5   one attribute of the print task.

1 3.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying at least one printing device

2 comprises:

3   enabling a current location of the user to be identified; and

4   identifying at least one printing device located in a vicinity of the current

5 location of the user; and

6   wherein enabling the user to select from among the identified printing devices

7 comprises:

8   enabling the user to select from among the printing devices identified in the

9 vicinity of the current location.

1 4.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the at least one printing device

2 comprises:

3   receiving information corresponding to an intended location where the print

4 task is to be printed; and

5   identifying at least one printing device located in a vicinity of the intended

6 location; and

7   wherein enabling the user to select from among the identified printing devices

8 comprises:

9   enabling the user to select from among the printing devices identified in the

10 vicinity of the location.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying at least one printing device

2   comprises:

3   storing information corresponding to the at least one printing device such that

4   the information indicates, of each of the printing devices, at least one of: a location, a

5   communication address, and at least one printing capability.

1   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving information corresponding to a

2   user's intent to print a print task comprises:

3   receiving the information from a mobile appliance, at least in part, via a

4   wireless communication network.

1   7.   The method of claim 6, wherein enabling the user to select from among the

2   identified printing devices comprises:

3   communicating information corresponding to the identified printing devices to

4   the user, at least in part, via a wireless communication network such that the user is

5   provided with information corresponding to the identified printing devices via the

6   mobile appliance.

1   8.   The method of claim 7, wherein facilitating printing of the print task at the

2   selected printing device comprises:

3   retrieving information corresponding to the print task; and

4   communicating the information corresponding to the print task to the selected

5   printing device via a communication network.

1   9.   The method of claim 7, wherein the communication network comprises the

2   Internet.

1   10.   A method for printing information comprising:

2   receiving information corresponding to printing devices;

3   storing the information corresponding to the printing devices;

4   receiving, via a communication network, information corresponding to a

5   user's intent to print a print task;

6   analyzing information corresponding to the print task to identify at least one

7   attribute of the print task;

8   identifying a printing device possessing capabilities corresponding to the at

9   least one attribute of the print task such that the printing device is able to print the

10   print task optimally compared to at least another unidentified printing device;

11   providing the user with information corresponding to the printing device

12   identified via a communication network;

13   enabling the user to select the printing device for printing the print task; and

14   facilitating printing of the print task at the printing device selected to produce

15   a printed document such that the printed document exhibits the attributes of the print

16   task.

1   11.   The method of claim 10, wherein facilitating printing of the print task at the

2   printing device comprises:

3   providing information corresponding to the print task to the printing device via

4   a communication network.

1   12.   The method of claim 10, wherein identifying a printing device comprises:

2   enabling a current location of the user to be identified; and

3   identifying at least one printing device located in a vicinity of the current

4   location of the user.

1   13.   The method of claim 10, wherein receiving information corresponding to

2   printing devices comprises:

3   receiving, in regard to each of the printing devices, information corresponding

4   to at least one of: a location, a communication address, and at least one printing

5   capability.

1   14.   The method of claim 10, wherein receiving information corresponding to a

2   user's intent to print a print task comprises:

3   receiving the information from a mobile appliance, at least in part, via a

4   wireless communication network.

1   15.   A system for printing information comprising:

2   a print request processing system configured to communicatively couple with

3   a communication network, the print request processing system being configured to:

4   receive information corresponding to a user's intent to print a print

5   task;

6   identify at least one printing device possessing capabilities

7   corresponding to attributes of the print task such that the at least one printing

8   device is able to print the print task optimally compared to at least another

9   unidentified device;

10   provide information corresponding to at least one printing device

11   identified to the user via a communication network; and

12   provide information corresponding to the print task to a selected one of

13   the printing devices via a communication network such that the selected one of

14   the printing devices is enabled to produce a printed document, the printed

15   document exhibiting the attributes of the print task.

1   16.   The system of claim 15, wherein the print request processing system is further

2   configured to analyze information corresponding to the print task to identify at least

3   one attribute of the print task, the at least one attribute being selected from: the

4   presence of graphics, complexity of graphics, handout notes, print medium size,

5   number of pages, smallest font size, largest font size, document type and duplex.

1   17.   The system of claim 15, further comprising:

2   means for analyzing information corresponding to the print task to identify at

3   least one attribute of the print task.

1   18.   The system of claim 15, wherein the print request processing system is further

2   configured to receive information corresponding to a current location of the user and

3   identify printing devices located in a vicinity of the current location of the user such

4   that the information corresponding to the identified printing devices includes only the

5   printing devices identified in the vicinity of the current location of the user.

1   19.   The system of claim 15, wherein the print request processing system is further

2   configured to receive information corresponding to an intended location where the

3   print task is to be printed and identify printing devices located in a vicinity of the

4   intended location such that the information corresponding to the identified printing

5   devices includes only the printing devices identified in the vicinity of the intended

6   location.

1   20.   The system of claim 15, further comprising:

2   a server configured to communicatively couple to a communication network;

3   and

4   wherein the print request processing system resides on the server.

1   21.   The system of claim 15, further comprising:

2   a print request system configured to communicatively couple with the

3   communication network, the print request system being configured to:

4   receive information corresponding to a user's intent to print a print

5   task,

6   receive information corresponding to at least one printing device, the at

7   least one printing device possessing capabilities corresponding to attributes of

8   the print task such that the at least one printing device is able to print the print

9   task optimally compared to at least another printing device;

10   enable the user to select from among the at least one printing device

11   identified; and

12   provide information corresponding to the selected printing device to

13   the communication network.

1   22.   The system of claim 21, further comprising:

2   a mobile appliance configured to communicatively couple to a communication

3   network via a wireless protocol; and

4   wherein the print request system resides on the mobile appliance.

1   23.   The system of claim 22, wherein the mobile appliance includes a Global

2   Positioning System (GPS) receiver, the GPS receiver being configured to provide

3   information corresponding to a current location of the user for use by the print request

4   system; and

5   wherein the print request system enables the information corresponding to the

6   current location of the user to be provided to the print request processing system.

1   24.   The system of claim 22, wherein the mobile appliance includes a display

2   device, the display device being configured to display the identified printing devices

3   to the user.

1   25.   The system of claim 15, further comprising:

2   at least one printing device communicating with the print request processing

3   system, the at least one printing device being configured to receive information

4   corresponding to the print task from the print request processing system and print the

5   print task.

1 26.   A system for printing information comprising:

2   a mobile appliance having a print request system, a user input component, a

3 display device, and an RF transmitter/receiver configured to communicatively couple

4 with a communication network, the print request system being configured to:

5   receive, via the user input component, information corresponding to a

6 user's intent to print a print task,

7   receive, via the RF transmitter/receiver and communication network,

8 information corresponding to at least one printing device, the at least one

9 printing device possessing capabilities corresponding to attributes of the print

10 task such that the at least one printing device is able to print the print task

11 optimally compared to at least another printing device;

12   enable the at least one printing device identified to be displayed to the

13 user via the display device;

14   enable the user to select from among the at least one printing device

15 identified; and

16   provide information corresponding to the selected printing device to

17 the communication network via the RF transmitter/receiver.

1 27.   The system of claim 26, wherein the mobile appliance includes a Global

2 Positioning System (GPS) receiver, the GPS receiver being configured to provide

3 information corresponding to a current location of the user for use by the print request

4 system.